GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3418
ANSWERED ON:17.08.2005
CLEARANCE FOR IMPORTED SPORTS EQUIPMENT
Owaisi Shri Asaduddin

Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the sports persons are required to wait for clearance from the Government for imported sports equipment;

(b) if so, the number of applications received by the Government for import of rifles and revolvers from sports persons during the last one year;

(c) the time fixed by the Government for the clearance of applications that fulfil all the conditions;

(d) the number of applications pending at present for clearance; and

(e) the steps taken or being taken by the Government to expedite the clearance of such applications?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER`S OFFICE (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN)

(a) As per existing procedure, eminent sportspersons are allowed duty free import of sports equipment. Only in case of shooting, the renowned shooters are required to have recommendations of this Ministry to Directorate General of Foreign Trade (DGFT) for issue of import license for import of arms/ammunitions, as import of these items is under restricted category. Such applications are processed expeditiously as and when received.

(b) During the last one year i..e from January 2004 to December,2004, 11 proposals have been received for import of rifles and revolvers from sports persons through National Rifle Association of India (NRAI).

(c) No specific time limit is prescribed for clearance of applications. As stated in (a) above, such applications are processed expeditiously as and when received.

(d) No application is pending with the Ministry as on date.

(e) The Government has been taking various measures to streamline the import of arms & ammunitions. Recently, restrictions on import of air weapons have been removed for shooters registered with Rifle clubs or District/State/National Rifle Association. Their import has been placed in the OGL.